5

## **Claims**

## What is claimed is:

1. A protective device for dispensing devices, said protective device

means for covering at least the document feed path opening of the dispensing device; and

means for providing access to the document received from the dispensing device.

2. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said means for covering at least the document feed path opening of the dispensing device includes:

a separate enclosure for mounting over the dispensing device.

3. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said protective device further includes:

said protective device is an integral part of the dispensing device.

4. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said protective device

said protective device is secured to a portion of the cover assembly of a dispersing device.

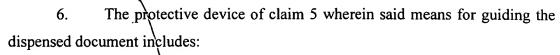
5. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said means for covering at least the document feed path opening of the dispensing device includes:

means for guiding the document produced from the dispensing device into said means for providing access.

5



A



an angled top portion.

7. The protective device of claim 5 wherein said means for guiding the dispensed document includes:

a top portion; and

a groove extending towards the document feed path opening of the dispensing device to guide the produced document.

8. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said protective device includes:

at least a portion of said protective device is formed from a transparent material.

9. The protective device of claim 1 wherein said protective device includes:

said protective device is formed from a material that is substantially dishwasher safe.

10. The protective device of claim 1 wherein the dispensing device includes:

a printer.

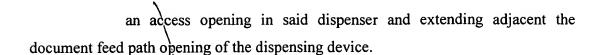
11. A protective device for protecting a dispensing device from environmental contamination, said protective device comprising:

a dispenser;

means for securing said dispenser adjacent the document feed path opening of a dispensing device to cover the document fee path opening; and

5

5



12. The protective device of claim 11 wherein said means for securing said dispenser includes:

means for securing said protective device to the dispensing device cover assembly adjacent the document feed path opening of the dispensing device.

13. The protective device of claim 11 wherein said means for securing said dispenser includes:

said protective device is an integral portion of the cover assembly of the dispensing device.

14. The protective device of claim 11 wherein said means for securing said dispenser includes:

a separate enclosure which mounts over the dispensing device.

15. The protective device of claim 11 wherein said dispenser includes:

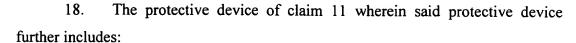
means for guiding a document from the document feed path opening of the dispensing device through said access opening.

16. The protective device of claim 15 wherein said means for guiding a dispensed document includes:

an angled top panel on said dispenser.

17. The protective device of claim 15 wherein said means for guiding a dispensed document includes:

at least one groove extending downward in a top panel on said dispenser.



at least a portion of said protective device being transparent.

19. The protective device of claim 11 wherein said protective device further includes:

said protective device being formed from a dishwasher safe material.

20. The protective device of claim 11 wherein the dispensing device includes:

a printer.

